

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 OMB-01 SAI-01 ACDA-05 OC-05

CCO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 A-01 OPR-02 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /078 W

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P 161400Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9160

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

7206TH ABG ATHENAI AB GR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MILI, ELAB, GR, US

SUBJECT: LABOR PROBLEMS AT HELLENIKON AND BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: ATHENS 4397

1. AS ARRANGED DURING JUNE 13 MEETING, DCM AND POL/MIL OFFICER, ACCOMPANIED BY 7206TH ABG PERSONNEL OFFICER, MET WITH GREEK OFFICIALS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY JUNE 16 TO DISCUSS FURTHER LABOR QUESTIONS BROUGHT TO GOG ATTENTION BY UNION OF EMPLOYEES OF US FORCES. IN ABSENCE OF DEPFONMIN STAVROPOULOS, GREEK SIDE LED BY AMBASSADOR CALOGERAS AND INCLUDED VIRTUALLY SAME CAST WHICH PARTICIPATED IN JUNE 13 MEETING.

2. US REPS PROVIDED DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT NUMBERS AND CATEGORIES OF US CITIZEN PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT HELLENIKON (ATHENAI AIR BASE) AND IN RELATED ACTIVITIES. GREEK SIDE ACCEPTED WITHOUT QUESTION US RIGHT TO BRING INTO GREECE US CITIZEN EMPLOYEES AS PART OF CIVILIAN COMPONENT. THEY ALSO ACCEPTED WITHOUT CHALLENGE, AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT, CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS CURRENTLY

EMPLOYED OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE FORCE. PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OF US CITIZENS AND OF OFF-DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL WAS NOT CHALLENGED BY GREEK SIDE AFTER IT WAS MADE CLEAR TO THEM BY GREEK DIRECTOR OF HELLENIC OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION (HOA) THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO RECRUIT GREEKS FOR LESS THAN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT. GREEK SIDE THEN FOCUSED ON LOCALLY HIRED US CITIZEN FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, A CATEGORY WHICH OBVIOUSLY WILL BE CENTRAL TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF THE LABOR SITUATION. US REPS POINTED OUT THAT LOCAL-HIRE US CITIZENS ARE GENERALLY EMPLOYED TO FILL POSITIONS IDENTIFIED AS REQUIRING US CITIZENSHIP, SUCH AS PARTICULAR SKILLS, SECURITY REQUIREMENTS, OR SUPERVISORY NEEDS, AND NOTED THAT THE IDENTIFICATION OF POSITIONS FOR US OR LOCAL HIRE WAS A PREROGATIVE OF THE FORCE IN ANY NATO COUNTRY.

3. AMBASSADOR CALOGERAS REPEATED DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER STAVROPOULOS' COMMENTS THAT A "STOP GAP" SOLUTION TO LABOR QUESTIONS WAS NEEDED UNTIL SUBGROUP MEETINGS ON HELLENIKON AND SOFA ISSUES COULD DEFINE A NEW REGIME FOR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF US FORCES IN GREECE. US REPS POINTED OUT THAT CONTRARY TO NEWS REPORTS NO US CITIZENS WERE TO BE HIRED TO REPLACE 64 GREEKS WHO WERE REFIRED. CALOGERAS REPLIED THAT THERE WAS "A POLITICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL NEED, TO AVOID HIRING ANY ADDITIONAL FULL-TIME US CITIZEN PERSONNEL, DEPENDENTS OR OTHERWISE, TO FILL POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY FILLED BY GREEK CITIZEN PERSONNEL. HE ALSO ASKED THAT THE LIST OF US CITIZENS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED FULL-TIME BE REVIEWED IN A SUBSEQUENT MEETING TO BE ARRANGED IN A FEW DAYS.

4. AS NOTED IN PARA 4 REFTTEL, IT IS INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT AN AGREED DEFINITION OF "NOT" ORDINARILY RESIDENT" (SOFA ARTICLE 1) WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO EMERGE FROM DISCUSSIONS OF LABOR SITUATION, PROBABLY FROM SOFA SUBGROUP MEETINGS. IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF DEPARTMENT COULD PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT PRACTICES IN OTHER NATO COUNTRIES CONCERNING LOCAL HIRE OF US CITIZENS AND WHAT MEANING NORMALLY IS ATTACHED TO "ORDINARILY RESIDENT". THE JUNE 13 TERMINATION OF THE STRIKE AT THE AB REMOVED THE POLITICAL URGENCY FROM THE DISCUSSION OF LABOR QUESTIONS BUT LEFT THE IMPETUS WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH WE MUST NOW DEAL. AS PART OF THIS EFFORT, WE URGE THAT US MILITARY COMMANDS PUT A TEMPORARY FREEZE ON HIRING OF ANY US PERSONNEL TO FULL-TIME JOBS HERETOFORE OCCUPIED BY GREEK PERSONNEL, AT LEAST UNTIL GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYMENT AT US FACILITIES HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED FURTHER WITHIN CONTEXT OF BASE NEGOTIATIONS.  
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## Message Attributes

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